Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) A method of reading messages which are sent over a data bus in a motor vehicle between electronic units, comprising:

- at least one communications network based on at least one data bus to which several electronic units are connected by means of a bus interface,

- at least one data interface for connecting the communications network with an external data processing unit,

- at least one cyclically overwritable, volatile storing means for the storing of messages which were sent in the communications network,

- at least one monitoring unit having an executable program which examines the messages stored in the volatile storing means for selected, parameterizable attributes,

- at least one definable trigger event, whose occurrence is monitored by the executable program, and upon whose occurrence the cyclical overwriting of the volatile storing means is stopped for at least as long until the data content of the volatile storing means is transferred to a second, non-volatile storing means.

2. (Original) The method as defined in claim 1,
    wherein
    the definable trigger event may be read or exchanged over the data interface of the communications network.

3. (Currently Amended) The method as defined in claim 1 ~~or 2~~,
    wherein
    the parameterizable attributes may be read or exchanged over the data interface of the communications network.

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4. (Currently Amended)   The method as defined in <u>claim 1</u> ~~claims 1 to 3~~, wherein

the data content of the non-volatile storing means is, upon request by an external electronic data processing device, read thereinto over the data interface of the communications network.

5. (Currently Amended)   The method as defined in <u>claim 1</u> ~~claims 1 to 4~~, wherein

the trigger event is formed from a logic or time-related concatenation of the parameterizable attributes.

6. (Currently Amended)   The method as defined in <u>claim 1</u> ~~claims 1 to 5~~, wherein

the data bus is a CAN bus and the data interface is a serial interface or a modem interface.

7. (Currently Amended)   The method as defined in claim <u>6</u> ~~7~~, wherein

the modem interface is a mobile wireless interface based on the standards of SMS, GSM or GPRS.

8. (Currently Amended)   The method as defined in claim 1 ~~or 5~~, wherein

the parameterizable attributes are CAN identifier, error bits, error codes or selected travel data of the motor vehicle.

9. (Original)   The method as defined in claim 1, wherein

several trigger events are defined and monitored.

10. (Currently Amended)   The method as defined in claim 1 ~~claims 1 to 9~~,
        wherein
        after occurrence of a trigger event, a notification to an external data
processing device concerning the occurrence of the event is effected.

11. (Original) The method as defined in claim 10,
        wherein
        the data content of the non-volatile storing means is, after sending the
notification, read into an external electronic data processing device at the request
thereof.